newstats bureau of statistics

June 7, 2013

NWT Labour Force Activity
- May 2013 -

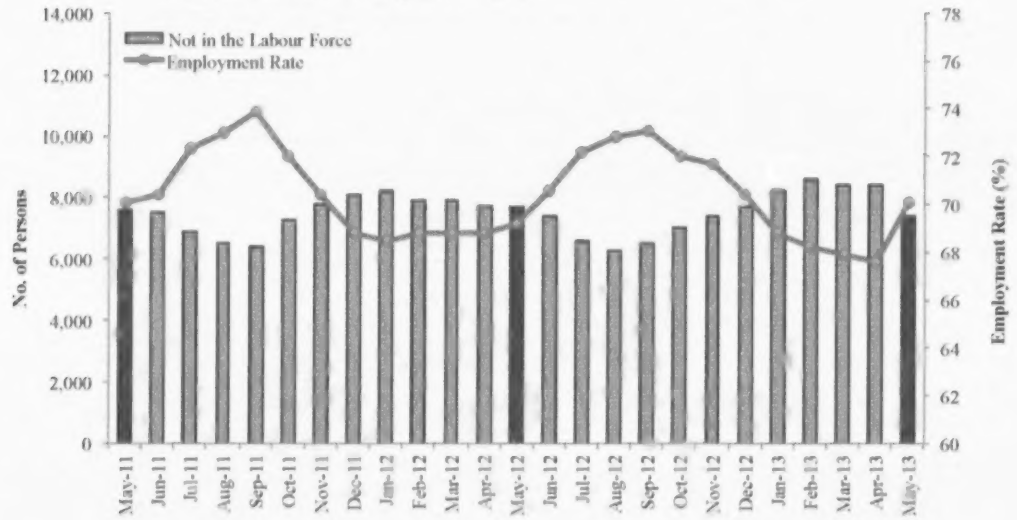
Statistics Canada estimates that, in May 2013, out of 32,100 residents 15 years of age and older 22,500 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories, representing an employment rate of 70.1%. Nationally, Canada's employment rate stood at 61.5%.

The NWT employment rate rose for the first time in seven months, increasing by 2.5 percentage points between April and May 2013. As shown in Figure 1, the month of April was the bottom of the seasonal employment cycle. The sharp employment rate increase in May translates to the largest monthly employment gain in almost three years. Compared to last month, overall employment increased by 800 persons. Nevertheless, the unemployment rate also rose, as more people were seeking employment.

Table 1 Monthly Highlights Northwest Territories, May 2013

	May-13	Apr-13	May-12
Population	32,100	32,100	32,100
Labour Force	24,700	23,700	24,300
Employed	22,500	21,700	22,200
Unemployed	2,200	2,000	2,100
Not in Labour Force	7,400	8,400	7,700
Participation (%)	76.9	73.8	75.7
Employment (%)	70.1	67.6	69.2
Unemployment (%)	8.9	8.4	8.6

Figure 1 Persons Not in the Labour Force and Employment Rates Northwest Territories, 2011-2013



2013-012
ISSN-0827-3545

Web site: http://www.statsnwt.ca

Between April and May 2013, the overall employment gains were evenly split between full-time and part-time jobs, as well as by employees and those self-employed. Employment in the service-producing sector increased by 500, while those in the goods-producing sector increased by 200.

Table 2 ***Monthly and Yearly Change in Employment by Selected Characteristics Northwest Territories, May 2013***

	May-13	Apr-13	May-12	Apr-13 to May-13	May-12 to May- 13
				Change (persons)	
Total Employment	22,500	21,700	22,200	800	300
Full-time	20,000	19,600	19,600	400	400
Part-time	2,500	2,100	2,600	400	(100)
Employees	20,800	20,400	20,700	400	100
Public	10,000	9,900	10,100	100	(100)
Private	10,800	10,500	10,500	300	300
Self-employment	1,700	1,300	1,500	400	200
Goods Producing	4,000	3,800	3,400	200	600
Service Producing	18,500	18,000	18,800	500	(300)

Both employment and the employment rate increased for all key characteristics between April and May 2013. Most notably, the youth employment rate jumped by 4.5 percentage points.

Table 3 ***Employment Rates by Key Characteristics Northwest Territories***

	May-13		Apr-13		Mar-13	
	Employed (Persons)	Employment rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment rate (%)
Northwest Territories	22,500	70.1	21,700	67.6	21,800	67.9
15-24 Yrs.	2,900	43.9	2,600	39.4	2,700	40.9
25 Yrs. & Over	19,600	76.9	19,100	74.9	19,100	74.9
Males	11,800	71.1	11,400	68.7	11,400	68.7
Females	10,700	69.5	10,400	67.1	10,400	67.1
Aboriginal	7,400	52.1	7,200	50.7	7,200	50.7
Non-Aboriginal	15,100	84.8	14,600	81.6	14,700	82.1
Yellowknife	12,800	81.0	12,500	79.6	12,400	80.0
Other	9,700	59.5	9,300	56.7	9,400	56.3

The following table presents historical labour force activity in the Northwest Territories.

Table 4 ***Labour Force Activity***
Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the Labour Force	Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate	Employment Rate
May-13	32,100	24,700	22,500	2,200	7,400	76.9	8.9	70.1
Apr-13	32,100	23,700	21,700	2,000	8,400	73.8	8.4	67.6
Mar-13	32,100	23,700	21,800	1,900	8,400	73.8	8.0	67.9
Feb-13	32,100	23,500	21,900	1,600	8,600	73.2	6.8	68.2
Jan-13	32,100	23,900	22,100	1,700	8,200	74.5	7.1	68.8
Dec-12	32,100	24,400	22,600	1,800	7,700	76.0	7.4	70.4
Nov-12	32,100	24,700	23,000	1,700	7,400	76.9	6.9	71.7
Oct-12	32,100	25,000	23,100	1,900	7,000	77.9	7.6	72.0
Sep-12	32,000	25,600	23,400	2,200	6,500	80.0	8.6	73.1
Aug-12	32,000	25,700	23,300	2,300	6,300	80.3	8.9	72.8
Jul-12	32,000	25,400	23,100	2,300	6,600	79.4	9.1	72.2
Jun-12	32,000	24,700	22,600	2,100	7,400	77.2	8.5	70.6
Previous Years:								
May-12	32,100	24,300	22,200	2,100	7,700	75.7	8.6	69.2
May-11	32,100	24,500	22,500	2,000	7,600	76.3	8.2	70.1
May-10	32,300	22,500	20,800	1,700	9,800	69.7	7.6	64.4
May-09	32,200	22,900	21,300	1,600	9,200	71.1	7.0	66.1
May-08	32,100	23,800	22,200	1,600	8,300	74.1	6.7	69.2
May-07	31,600	24,800	23,400	1,400	6,800	78.5	5.6	74.1
May-06	31,100	24,300	23,100	1,100	6,900	78.1	4.5	74.3
May-05	31,200	23,200	22,100	1,000	8,100	74.4	4.3	70.8
May-04	30,900	23,600	21,900	1,800	7,200	76.4	7.6	70.9
May-03	30,000	22,700	20,900	1,700	7,300	75.7	7.5	69.7

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national labour force survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at http://www.statsnwt.ca or call (867) 873-7147.

Next Release: July 5, 2013